

of special pay/allowances. The Port Trust did not draw their wages for the period of their above refusal in February, 1979 on the principle of 'no work no pay'. Hence, they resorted to strike. The strike by shore crew of Prince's and Victoria Dock was in sympathy with shore crew of Indira Dock.

(c) 48 ships were awaiting berths as on 17-3-1979.

(d) Measures taken for expediting loading and unloading operations and ship movements are indicated below:

1. Piece-rate/Incentive Schemes have been revised. Results so far are encouraging.

2. Direct delivery resorted to in an increasing number of cases for quick clearance.

3. Palletisation of cargo for better output.

4. Demurrage rates are being revised to speed up deliveries and discourage use of transit sheds for long periods.

5. Advance carting allowance for pre-shipment build-up of cargoes.

6. One berth in Indira/Prince's and Victoria Docks reserved for vessels completing operations within 48 hrs.

7. Reservation of one berth for containers.

8. Stufnng/unstufnng facility outside docks but within Port area.

9. Liberal permission for hiring material handling equipment from outside.

10. Random checking by customs in selected commodities.

11. Scheme of mid-stream discharge of cargoes into barges sponsored by Port Trust from 7th February, 1979.

### **Amendment to the Rules Governing Overseas Employment**

2175. SHRI NARASINGHA

PRASAD NANDA: DR. V P.

DUTT:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend the rules governing overseas employment to provide an effective check on service conditions before permitting workers to accept jobs in foreign countries;

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the proposed amendments in the said rules; and

(c) by when a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): (a) Yes Sir, Government have issued a notification in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, sub-section (i), dated 9th February, 1979, publishing draft rules replacing rule 57 of the Emigration Rules, 1923, for information of all persons likely to be affected thereby and giving notice that the said draft rules will be taken into consideration on or after expiry of a period of 30 days from the date of publication of this notification.

(b) The draft rules provide for procedures which Indian recruiting agents shall be required to follow for obtaining registration and specific permission to recruit skilled workers on behalf of their foreign principals. All foreign employers, according to the draft rules, are required to recruit skilled workers through approved recruiting agents registered with Ministry of Labour.

(c) Government have received some suggestions from the interested persons on the draft rules. These are, at present, being examined. The final rules incorporating the useful suggestions from interested members of the public are likely to be notified in the Official Gazette shortly.